

BEFORE THE MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Gregory Scott  
Joel Jacobs  
Marshall Johnson  
Edward Garvey  
LeRoy Koppendraye

Chair  
Commissioner  
Commissioner  
Commissioner  
Commissioner

In the Matter of **Independent Emergency Services, LLC** 's Request for Approval of Certified Actual Costs Associated with the **Polk County** 911 Emergency Telephone Services System

ISSUE DATE: October 24, 2000

DOCKET NO. **P5270/ES-00-1348**

ORDER APPROVING CERTIFIED 911  
SYSTEM COSTS

**BACKGROUND**

On April 24, 1984, the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (the Commission) approved Polk County's final plan for the establishment of a 911 Emergency Services system.

On September 17, 1987, the Commission approved actual costs incurred by Northwestern Bell Telephone Company for nonrecurring capital costs of central office rearrangement and main stations in the Crookston, Byglund, Climax, Fisher, Neilsville, Beltrami, Erskine, Fertile, Fosston, Lengby, Mentor, Winger, Gully, East Grand Forks, and Mable Bay Exchanges for a portion of the 911 Emergency Services system in Polk County.

On March 22, 1988, the Commission approved actual costs incurred by Garden Valley Telephone Company for capital costs for 911 central office equipment, and monthly recurring costs for 911 outswitching trunks and interexchange circuits to the Beltrami, Fertile, Maple Bay, Mentor, Winger, Erskine, Fosston and Gully Exchanges for a portion of the 911 Emergency Services system in Polk County.

On February 8, 1989, the Commission approved actual costs incurred by Halstad Telephone Company for capital costs for 911 central office equipment, and monthly recurring costs for 911 Outswitching trunks and interexchange circuits for the Byglund, Fisher, Climax and Nielsville Exchanges for a portion of the 911 Emergency Services system in Polk County.

On November 22, 1989, the Commission approved actual costs incurred by Halstad Telephone Company for monthly recurring costs for 911 outswitching trunks and interexchange circuits to the Byglund, Fisher, Climax, and Nielsville Exchanges for a portion of the 911 Emergency Services system in Polk County.

**CURRENT FILING**

On April 28, 2000, Polk County contracted with Independent Emergency Services, LLC (IES) for the installation of a portion Automatic Line Identification (ALI) service in their 911 Emergency Services system (this follows a change approved by the Commission to allow Polk County change to IES from Qwest Communications as their provider of enhanced 911 with tandem based Automatic Number Identification (ANI) and Automatic Location Identification (ALI).

On September 26, 2000, IES installed 2 each 10 digit Trunk ports from the Beltrami, Bygland, Climax, Crookston, Erskine, Fertile, Fisher, Fosston, East Grand Forks, Gully, Lengby, Maple Bay, McIntosh, Mentor, Neilsville, Winger and Crookston Exchanges to the Erskine Selective Router

IES also established ALI records and databases for all Polk County Exchanges and installed two ALI database ports to Public Service Answering Points (PSAPs) from the Crookston to the Hutchinson and Annandale Exchanges.

On October 9, 2000, IES certified actual costs incurred in providing fully enhanced 911 services, including ALI to PSAPs, to all of the exchanges in the 911 Emergency Services system in Polk County.

IES is now requesting Commission approval of the actual costs of providing ALI services to these exchanges. Commission approval is necessary before the Department of Administration (DOA) will make payments for 911 system costs.

### **FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS**

Minn. Stat. Section 403.11, subd. 3 states:

Subd. 3 (METHOD OF PAYMENT; CERTIFICATION.) A public utility incurring reimbursable costs under subdivision 1 or 2 shall certify those costs to the commissioner of administration. The certification shall be in a form as prescribed by the commissioner after consultation with the public utilities commission. If the commissioner and the commission approve the certified costs as appropriate and accurate, the commissioner shall pay the certified costs from money appropriated for that purpose within 90 days following receipt by the commissioner of the certified costs. The commissioner of administration shall estimate the amount required to reimburse public utilities for the state's obligations under subdivisions 1 and 2 of this section and the governor shall include the estimated amount in the biennial budget request.

Independent Emergency Services, LLC has certified, in writing, that the elements of 911 services and associated costs indicated on Attachment A, reflect only charges for services actually rendered in the direct provision of 911 service in Polk County.

All charges listed on Attachment A are in accordance with the Company's tariffs.

The Commission finds that the costs for 911 Emergency Telephone Service in Polk County which have been certified by the Company are appropriate and accurate.

Policy References:

Minn. Stat. Section 403.11 System Costs

Minn. Rules, pt. 1215.1400 Funding Eligibility/Payment of Recurring Costs

Minn. Rules, pt. 1215.1500 Funding Eligibility/Payment of Central Office Modification Costs

**ORDER**

1. The costs identified on Attachment A accompanying this Order are approved as appropriate and accurate pursuant to the Commission's March 21, 2000 Standing Order Designating Filings Requesting Certification of 911 Costs As Filings Subject to Approval Under Minn. Stat. § 216A.03, Subd. 7, Docket No. P-999/CI-99-1723.
2. This Order does not approve payment of any 911 system costs. Any possible future approval of payment for system costs shall be granted by the Commissioner of the Department of Administration in accordance with the provisions of Minn. Stat. Section 403.11.
3. This Order shall become effective immediately.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

Burl W. Haar  
Executive Secretary

(S E A L)

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STATE OF MINNESOTA)  
 )SS  
COUNTY OF RAMSEY )

AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE

I \_\_\_\_\_, being first duly sworn, deposes and says:

That on the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2000 (s)he served the attached **Order Approving Certified 911 System Costs for Polk County 911 Emergency Telephone Service Docket No. P5270/ES-00-1348.**

XX By depositing in the United States Mail at the City of St. Paul, a true and correct copy thereof, properly enveloped with postage prepaid

XX By personal service

XX By inter-office mail

to all persons at the addresses indicated below or on the attached list:

JAMES R BEUTELSPACHER  
STATE 9-1-1 PROJECT MANAGER  
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION  
ROOM 510  
658 CEDAR STREET  
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MS DOROTHY JESERITZ  
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235 FRANKLIN ST. SW  
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MARY KAY FRISCH  
PRODUCT ANALYST  
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION  
ROOM 510  
658 CEDAR STREET  
ST. PAUL, MN 55155

Subscribed and sworn to before me, \_\_\_\_\_

a notary public, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of

\_\_\_\_\_, 2000.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public